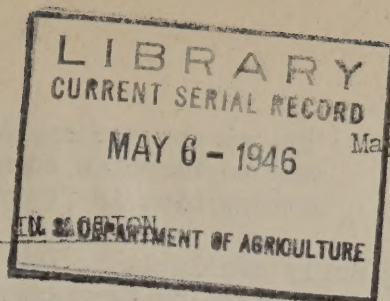


1.42

Ad 4 Agr.

United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.



*Resume*  
Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester

Director, Northeast Region

**WHEAT EXPORTS CONTINUE  
TO LAG; NEW YORK, PENN-  
SYLVANIA SET EXPORT GOALS**

Shipments of relief wheat and flour from the U. S. in the first 20 days of April were 7 million bushels short of the export goal. That makes the U. S. 19 million bushels short of the goal so far this year. The U. S. has agreed to export 225 million bushels of wheat between January 1 and July 1, 1946. Through April 20 only 117 1/2 million bushels had been shipped, leaving 107 1/2 million bushels to be shipped in the next 70 days.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture expects grain exports to increase sharply during May as a result of the 30-cents a bushel bonus offer for wheat and corn, and the 25 percent reduction order for the distribution of flour for domestic use.

New York and Pennsylvania farmers are being asked to help by selling for export 500,000 and 800,000 bushels of wheat respectively.

If these goals are reached it will be a substantial contribution toward making up the current lag in shipments. Deliveries of corn and wheat under the 30-cents a bushel bonus offer should be made by May 25.

The Department of Agriculture's quarterly report of wheat stocks on hand on April 1 showed only 339 million bushels of wheat in all positions in the U. S. There were 204 million bushels stored on farms. The report showed 40 percent less wheat than at any time since 1938.

**CORN PURCHASE PROGRAM  
OFF TO A GOOD START**

Substantial deliveries of corn are being received at local elevators under the Government Corn Purchase Program. The U. S. Department of Agriculture is offering farmers a 30 cents a bushel bonus over ceiling prices for corn sold to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Corn purchased under the program will be used in three ways. Some will be exported as whole grain for human consumption. Some will be exported as processed meal and grits. And some will be supplied to domestic processors for the manufacture of essential products approved by the USDA.

None of the corn purchased will be used for feed.

The bonus purchase offer will remain in effect until 50 million bushels have been obtained. Details on the operation of the program are available at county AAA offices.



1945-CROP CORN  
LOANS CALLED

The reason for calling all 1945-crop corn loans as of May 1 was to increase corn supplies available for export for human consumption in famine stricken countries.

Loans were originally available to May 31, 1946. The program has now been terminated and loans outstanding have been called as of May 1, four months ahead of the original termination date.

Farmers paying these loans may sell the corn to the CCC now and collect the 30 cents a bushel Government bonus currently being offered.

On April 12, 1946, there were about 2½ million bushels of corn under government loan, all of which was stored on farms.

MAY PROTEIN MEAL  
SET-ASIDE 10 PERCENT

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced this week that processors will be required to set aside 10 percent of their May production of soybeans, cottonseed, linseed,

and peanut meal. This is the same amount as the April set-aside.

The quantity ordered set aside beginning January 21, when the set-aside order was reinstated, was 5 percent through March 31. Processors are being instructed to ship the set-aside meal for use in designated States which are short of their equitable share of supplies of protein meal.

Shipments to date have been directed to 36 States. These are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, So. Carolina, Texas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

S. W. TATOR APPOINTED  
DAIRY BRANCH DIRECTOR

Appointment of S. W. Tator, Federal Milk Marketing Administrator for the Greater Boston, Mass., area, as Director of the Dairy Branch, PMA, succeeding

Mr. Tom G. Stitts, was announced this week by PMA Administrator R. H. Shields. Mr. Tator will assume his new duties on May 6.

Dr. Stitts, who has resigned to become associated with H. P. Hood and Sons, Boston, Mass., has had 19 years service in the Government. He has been Director of the Dairy Branch since 1942, and before that was chief of the cooperative research service division of the Farm Credit Administration.

Mr. Tator, the new director, has served 13 years as a Federal Milk Administrator. He has been Boston Administrator since November 1934. Before that he was Administrator for the Providence, R.I. milk marketing area. Mr. Tator has also served on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and as dean and president of the Junior College of Commerce, New Haven, Conn.

Don S. Anderson of the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, will rejoin the staff of the Dairy Branch as an assistant director about May 15. Mr. Anderson's varied experience with dairy programs includes heading the Poultry, Eggs, and Dairy Products Branch, Food Price Division, OPA (1943) and two years with the PMA Dairy Branch (1943-45).



United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.

May 1, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester

Director, Northeast Region

**WHEAT EXPORTS CONTINUE  
TO LAG; NEW YORK, PENN-  
SYLVANIA SET EXPORT GOALS**

Shipments of relief wheat and flour from the U. S. in the first 20 days of April were 7 million bushels short of the export goal. That makes the U. S. 19 million bushels short of the goal so far this year. The U. S. has agreed to export 225 million bushels of wheat between January 1 and July 1, 1946. Through April 20 only 117 1/2 million bushels had been shipped, leaving 107 1/2 million bushels to be shipped in the next 70 days.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture expects grain exports to increase sharply during May as a result of the 30-cents a bushel bonus offer for wheat and corn, and the 25 percent reduction order for the distribution of flour for domestic use.

New York and Pennsylvania farmers are being asked to help by selling for export 500,000 and 800,000 bushels of wheat respectively.

If these goals are reached it will be a substantial contribution toward making up the current lag in shipments. Deliveries of corn and wheat under the 30-cents a bushel bonus offer should be made by May 25.

The Department of Agriculture's quarterly report of wheat stocks on hand on April 1 showed only 339 million bushels of wheat in all positions in the U. S. There were 204 million bushels stored on farms. The report showed 40 percent less wheat than at any time since 1938.

**CORN PURCHASE PROGRAM  
OFF TO A GOOD START**

Substantial deliveries of corn are being received at local elevators under the Government Corn Purchase Program. The U. S. Department of Agriculture is offering farmers a 30 cents a bushel bonus over ceiling prices for corn sold to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Corn purchased under the program will be used in three ways. Some will be exported as whole grain for human consumption. Some will be exported as processed meal and grits. And some will be supplied to domestic processors for the manufacture of essential products approved by the USDA.

None of the corn purchased will be used for feed.

The bonus purchase offer will remain in effect until 50 million bushels have been obtained. Details on the operation of the program are available at county AAA offices.



1945-CROP CORN  
LOANS CALLED

The reason for calling all 1945-crop corn loans as of May 1 was to increase corn supplies available for export for human consumption in famine stricken countries.

Loans were originally available to May 31, 1946. The program has now been terminated and loans outstanding have been called as of May 1, four months ahead of the original termination date.

Farmers paying these loans may sell the corn to the CCC now and collect the 30 cents a bushel Government bonus currently being offered.

On April 12, 1946, there were about 2½ million bushels of corn under government loan, all of which was stored on farms.

MAY PROTEIN MEAL  
SET-ASIDE 10 PERCENT

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced this week that processors will be required to set aside 10 percent of their May production of soybeans, cottonseed, linseed, and peanut meal. This is the same amount as the April set-aside.

The quantity ordered set aside beginning January 21, when the set-aside order was reinstated, was 5 percent through March 31. Processors are being instructed to ship the set-aside meal for use in designated States which are short of their equitable share of supplies of protein meal.

Shipments to date have been directed to 36 States. These are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, So. Carolina, Texas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

S. W. TATOR APPOINTED  
DAIRY BRANCH DIRECTOR

Appointment of S. W. Tator, Federal Milk Marketing Administrator for the Greater Boston, Mass., area, as Director of the Dairy Branch, PMA, succeeding Tom G. Stitts, was announced this week by PMA Administrator R. H. Shields. Mr. Tator will assume his new duties on May 6.

Dr. Stitts, who has resigned to become associated with H. P. Hood and Sons, Boston, Mass., has had 19 years service in the Government. He has been Director of the Dairy Branch since 1942, and before that was chief of the cooperative research service division of the Farm Credit Administration.

Mr. Tator, the new director, has served 13 years as a Federal Milk Administrator. He has been Boston Administrator since November 1934. Before that he was Administrator for the Providence, R.I. milk marketing area. Mr. Tator has also served on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and as dean and president of the Junior College of Commerce, New Haven, Conn.

Don S. Anderson of the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, will rejoin the staff of the Dairy Branch as an assistant director about May 15. Mr. Anderson's varied experience with dairy programs includes heading the Poultry, Eggs, and Dairy Products Branch, Food Price Division, OPA (1943) and two years with the PMA Dairy Branch (1943-45).



USDA TERMINATES SUBSIDY TO  
N.Y. AREA MILK HANDLERS

In accordance with a directive from the Office of Economic Stabilization, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced Apr. 25 that it would

terminate the 20-cent per hundredweight fluid milk subsidy paid handlers in the New York metropolitan marketing area, effective on that date.

The program of subsidy payments to milk handlers went into effect in the New York area in November 1943. It enabled handlers to pay higher producer prices without exceeding the price ceilings for milk established by the OPA. These higher prices were required to assure production of adequate supplies of milk in the face of increases in farm wages and other production costs. The Office of Economic Stabilization has authorized a one-cent increase in the retail price of milk in the New York area to compensate handlers for removal of the subsidy and recent increases in handlers' costs of distribution.

SPEED-UP IN SURPLUS  
FARM MACHINERY DISPOSAL

Instructions to speed up the disposal of surplus farm machinery and equipment have been issued to all regional directors of the War Assets Corporation. All sales of surplus farm machinery and equipment, other than those going to priority claimants, are to be conditional upon their use in the food production program.

NITROGEN FERTILIZER  
SUPPLIES BECOMING SHORT

Nitrogen fertilizers may become critically short as a result of a continuation of the coal strike.

Ammonium sulphate, used in nitrogen fertilizers, is a by-product of coke plants. Production of about three-fourths of the nitrogenous materials used in fertilizers depends upon the use of coal.

Fertilizer production is running 5 to 8 percent over last year with an estimated 75 percent of the fertilizer for this season already delivered. But, demand greatly exceeds the supply.

"SPUDS"

The following is quoted from a recent item in the "Pennsylvania Farmer" by John A. Smith, Pennsylvania State AAA Committeeman.

"When Sir Walter Raleigh introduced the Irish potato from Virginia into Britain he recognized it as an antidote for starvation in the Emerald Isle. He was disappointed, however, when the Irish people refused to accept it as an article of food. When they learned that the potato was a member of the deadly nightshade family they declined to experiment with it as a source of nutrition. Raleigh finally persuaded Queen Elizabeth to serve it at state dinners, but even then the stubborn Irish subjects doubted its nutritive value. They organized the Society for the Prevention of Unwholesome Diet (S.P.U.D.) in defiance to the royal gesture and defied the Queen to disturb their prejudice.

"Finally opposition evaporated and eventually the potato became the chief article of food for the Irish people. In fact the general use of the potato emanated from Ireland to the extent that an American tuber became universally known as the Irish potato. SPUD, the society of condemnation, furnished a pseudonym for the article it condemned. Today the giant American crop of 432 million bushels is seeking a domestic and foreign market. As the grain resources of the world dwindle it appears that our potato surplus may be a Godsend for the alleviation of hunger abroad."



**CHICK HATCH FALLING OFF** Chick output during the first two weeks of April was slightly less than during the same period last year, according to a U. S. Department of Agriculture special mid-April hatchery survey.

The survey showed that, compared with the same weeks in 1945, 7 percent fewer eggs were set and 1 percent fewer chicks were hatched, and that 55 percent fewer chicks were booked for delivery during May and June.

**LIME REPORT** Following is the summary of lime orders received from county offices under the 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program and the report of deliveries made by suppliers through April 19, 1946:

State	Estimated Tonnage	Orders Rec'd From County Offices	Percentage	Deliveries Made	Percentage
Me.	87,000	48,223	55	21,959	25
N.H.	38,700	29,446	76	15,931	41
Vt.	59,123	54,230	92	37,716	64
Mass.	70,370	44,928	64	27,145	39
R. I.	7,950	4,002	50	3,347	42
Conn.	51,730	40,427	78	14,366	28
N.Y.	728,871	372,935	51	137,596	19
N.J.	66,475	42,147	63	28,074	42
Penna.	741,990	439,899	59	165,266	22
Total	1,852,209	1,076,237	58	551,400	24

Through March 29, more than two-thirds of the estimated superphosphate tonnage had been ordered and about 15 percent of it delivered. Deliveries will be slow during the spring planting season but are expected to improve by June 1.

**SUPPLIES OF FOOD PACKAGING CONTAINERS LIMITED** The supply of most food container and packaging material is extremely short, and future supplies are uncertain. A shortage of tinplate, nails, wire box binding, and small lumber and veneer will restrict the output of crates and boxes needed to handle many perishable foods.

Supplies of cotton cloth for bags and food wrapping are believed to be adequate. Paper production had increased since the end of the war. But, the demand for paper has gone up with shortages in other food packaging materials.

**DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS FOR COTTON EXPORTS EXTENDED** The U. S. Department of Agriculture has extended through June 30, 1947, the program to increase cotton exports.

Under this program, differential payments of four cents a pound are made to cotton exporters, thus enabling the CCC to provide cotton for export at four cents a pound below domestic prices. Since the program began in November 1944, 1,884,935 bales of cotton have been exported.

**RED SOUR CHERRY SET-ASIDES ENDED** The U. S. Department of Agriculture has terminated the set-aside order on hot packed and frozen cherries processed in 1945. All red sour cherries which have been set aside, but are not sold or contracted to be sold to the Government are released from all restrictions. The USDA has announced that essential needs have been met, and the set-aside order is no longer needed.



EVEN ANIMALS      The following article is quoted from a recent issue of the  
KNOW BETTER      "American Agriculturist."

"'The blind shall lead them' . . . 'Don't fence me in' . . . 'Animals aren't so dumb.'

"From Pennsylvania to Missouri farmers and agricultural workers are beginning to mumble such words in amazement as they marvel at the discriminating tastes of animals.

"A blind horse belong to Dr. S. J. Rigdon of West Union, Ohio, was put out on pasture. In the pasture was a plot which had been treated with a complete mixed fertilizer. The blind horse continually ate from the treated pasture. "I saw the blind horse eating near the outer edge of the fertilized plot one day and noticed that when he happened to get over into the unfertilized plot, he immediately drew back and continued eating in the fertilized pasture," reports Dr. D. R. Dodd, agronomy department Ohio State University.

"In Pennsylvania, deer coming down for winter grazing regularly choose to browse in areas which had been fertilized.

"A tenant in Iowa was startled when for over three weeks he watched his 20 head of cattle stay on 20 acres of cornstalks in a 300 acre corn field which had no fences. Then he figured it out. He had plowed under approximately 70 pounds of nitrogen per acre on the 20-acre strip, in addition to the 100 pounds of 3-12-12 starter fertilizer which had been applied to the whole 300 acre field. It was good land, but the part not receiving the nitrogen application yielded 60 to 70 bushels, while the nitrogen area gave him a 25 to 30 bushel increase. He was excited over his yield increase, but wasn't prepared for the difference the nitrogen made in pasturing the cornstalks.

"Dr. William A. Albrecht, head of the department of soils at the University of Missouri, reports that fertilized hay was placed on one end of a haystack and the pastured animals ate from that end of the stack."-- Warren Huff.

EGG PRICE REPORT      According to reports submitted by Northeast State Offices,  
New England egg prices in general for the week ending April 19, remained unchanged from the previous week. New Hampshire was the only State reporting price declines with prices dropped one to two cents. New England prices for "graded eggs - top grade" ranged from 36 to 48 cents.

New York egg prices were unchanged to slightly stronger as compared with the previous week. Graded egg prices ranged from  $32\frac{1}{2}$  cents to 45 cents.

Price increase in better quality eggs averaging between one and two cents occurred in New Jersey. Graded egg prices ranged from 25 cents to 44 cents.

Pennsylvania egg prices were much stronger during the week. Price increases for the State as a whole were noted for the third consecutive week. The heavy egg-producing area reported egg price increases ranging up to 7 cents for graded eggs. Only two counties reported price declines. These occurred in current receipt prices.

\* \* \*

---Save fats and oils. Don't fry fish, meats, poultry. Bake, boil, or stew them. Use meat drippings to flavor vegetables, dressings, sauces.



## JANUARY FOOD DELIVERIES

Department of Agriculture deliveries of food and agricultural products for foreign shipment, including the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and for domestic and territorial programs during the month of January 1946, totaled 2,046,395,381 lbs. This was substantially the same as December 1945. Deliveries for foreign shipment other than UNRRA during January totaled 1, 114,924,979 pounds, or 54 percent of the monthly total.

The 1,114,924,979 pounds delivered for foreign shipment (exclusive of UNRRA) was divided as follows: United Kingdom and British Services Overseas -- 154,035,179 pounds; other foreign claimants -- 960,889,800 pounds. "Other foreign claimants" include the USSR, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, and French North Africa.

On a commodity basis, grain and grain products continued to make up the major portion of the foreign shipments other than UNRRA -- 813,535,750 pounds, or 73 percent of deliveries to these outlets. Other commodities included: meats -- 5 percent of the foreign shipment total; sugar -- 5 percent; fruits and vegetables, 4 percent; special commodities, 4 percent; cotton and fiber, 4 percent; dairy products, 3 percent; tobacco, 2 percent; poultry, fats and oils, each less than one percent.

Deliveries to claimants of UNRRA totaled 627,104,810 pounds, or 31 percent of all deliveries for the month. The December deliveries to UNRRA amounted to 571,985,588 pounds. The UNRRA claimants include Czechoslovakia, Italy, Poland, Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania, Byelo-Russia, Algeria, Estonia, and China.

Dispositions to commercial outlets and transfers to other Government agencies amounted to 288,712,282 pounds, or 14 percent of the total quantity delivered. The quantity delivered to these outlets in December amounted to 97,693,292 pounds.

Deliveries for the Caribbean and Hawaiian stockpile programs totaled 301,322 and 48,000 pounds respectively -- each less than 1 percent of the total. School lunch and other civilian supply programs accounted for 15,303,988 pounds, or 1 percent of the total.

**FOOD IS GOOD WILL** Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said in a recent address that starving people have little time or energy to think about the future. "They are thinking about bread and potatoes, not about the advantages of democracy.

"Other countries know that ours is the best-fed Nation on earth, but have little time to reflect that the democratic Nations are their only large source of help.

"We want our own good-will to beget good-will in all parts of the world. We want to translate good-will into lasting peace and prosperity.

"But the words we want to speak to the peoples of the world must be words of truth. We cannot speak these words unless we supply the food."

\* \* \*

---Belgium will be entirely without bread within 30 days unless imports are received, according to a spokesman for the Belgium Ministry of Food.



Radio Transcription  
H. L. Manwaring, Asst. Director  
Northeast Region, Field Serv. Br., - PMA  
Station WBZ, Boston, Mass.  
May 2, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.

### 300 Million People Are Starving

I'm sure all of you listening in this morning have heard about the famine emergency campaign -- maybe most of you are helping make more wheat, fats, and oils available for the starving, but I can't refrain from calling the suffering of fellow human beings to your attention again.

We just can't let them down. If we do, we'll not only be breaking faith with them, but our children are liable to be facing theirs across the battlefields of a third world war.

In the war-ravaged and famine-stricken countries of Europe alone, 150 million people are living on less than 15 hundred calories a day -- millions of these get less than ten hundred calories. You and I and our fellow Americans eat more than thirty hundred calories each day. If each of us would eat five hundred calories less per day, we could save the lives of many persons in Europe threatened with starvation.

What does that mean to you and me? Two slices of bread with butter -- or three slices of bread without butter?

Doctors agree that less than 15 hundred calories a day for any great length of time will result in death. When a person gets less than that, his body begins to feed on itself. Fat layers between muscles and around vital organs disappear. Anemia sets in. As resistance is lowered, the system falls easy prey to tuberculosis, dysentery, blood poisoning.

While the body grows leaner and weaker, subtler, more dangerous changes occur. Vitamin deficiency causes bones to soften. Protein-deficient diet causes edema -- swelling of arms, legs, and abdomen because of water-logged tissues. Hair and teeth may fall out. Children stop growing.

Healthy American children are rosy-cheeked and bright-eyed. But babies of Holland have faces icy blue from malnutrition.

During 1945, 35,600 children below the age of 12 died in Holland. That was a 300 percent increase in infant deaths from the preceding year.

The wife of the Netherlands Minister to the United States says that before World War II, Holland was proud of the beauty of its children. But now the children have arms and legs like "sticks with claws at the end." Their faces are not human faces, but masks of terror, like hunted little animals.

You and I can change the blue, deathly pallor on the faces of those children, if we will -- to a rosy, healthy glow by saving wheat products for them.

One of the most severe famines in history is sweeping China. Mr. LaGuardia, Director of UNRRA, says, no matter how much food we send, it still won't be enough. But it will save some lives.



--More than 30 million persons are on the verge of starvation.

--China's limited food supplies are largely used up. People are eating roots, grass, tree bark, and clay.

--Hunan Province, formerly known as "China's rice bowl," harvested only half its usual rice crop due to droughts, floods, battle damage, and looting last year. Five million people are starving there today.

--Desperate conditions have recently developed in Hopei Province, where the situation was believed to be fairly good. Tens of thousands have already died.

How well are we doing? UNRRA is finding itself unable to meet food commitments to China. Plans called for shipment of about 32 million bushels of food, principally bread cereals and rice, during the first six months of 1946. Only about 7 million bushels were shipped in the first three months -- 9 million short.

During recent weeks, shipments of bread grains have been insufficient to even maintain -- during May -- the already inadequate diets. Unless shipments are increased promptly, the ration system of these countries is threatened. Chaos in food distribution will result.

Because these things are so, I hope you will join me in this personal pledge:

By saving food I can save lives.

My food-saving efforts will help build a stronger, more peaceful world for generations to come.

I want to help some starving persons live. I pledge to help them by doing the following things to the best of my ability.

Waste no food.

Cut down on the use of wheat products, fats, and oils.

Replace them with the more plentiful foods.

Re-use and salvage kitchen fats.

Keep up my garden.

Preserve food at home.

\* \* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State AAA Committeemen, State Offices of FSB; Farmer Fieldmen; County Offices in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New Hampshire; County Committeemen in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island)



1.42  
Ad 4/12  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD  
MAY 10 1946

May 8, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ccp-2  
Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

SLOW STARVATION  
IS AT WORK

Hunger can't be postponed -- and starvation gnaws more each day into the bodies and minds of millions of our world neighbors.

In the words of Secretary of Agriculture Anderson: "The people in most of the over-run countries of Europe are existing on one-half, or only one-third, of the amount of food that the average American gets. Slow starvation is at work."

Life and death will be decided for thousands of men, women, and children in the next month. Here are recent developments of the "starvation front" in the battle against death:

Hungary -- Newborn babies succumb to slow starvation in the once gay Budapest. Medical officers declare flatly that average daily rations -- about 500 calories -- result in 40 out of every 100 deaths among children. Italy -- On the black market adequate meals cost \$5. Two pounds of bread cost \$4.50. Without UNRRA, Italy would be near starvation. Yugoslavia -- Five million people fully dependent on UNRRA. In many places only food available is three slices of bread per day.

Belgium -- Darker bread loaf has returned and black market flourishing. Greece -- Dependent almost entirely on UNRRA with wheat supplies down to 9 ounces per person per day. France -- Average ration of meat for two meals is about two-thirds of an ounce. Potatoes are scarce. Germany -- May be without potatoes first week in May. Average meal is a boiled potato, two spoonfuls of fish or hash, and dry bread.

Poland -- Fast approaching the danger line of hunger. Their own grain stocks are running out. It is estimated that 2,800,000 to 3,175,000 bushels of grain per month will need to be imported during the next 90 days. Czechoslovakia -- now dependent on UNRRA for one-seventh of its grain. All foods except potatoes are rationed. There are general shortages in dairy products, fats, and meats. Transportation difficulties have made Slovakia one of the darkest spots in Europe.

Albania -- Daily allowance per person is one small loaf of bread. Local grain stocks are running out and about 57 percent of the people are now dependent on UNRRA wheat and flour. China -- Famine has reached its greatest intensity in Hunan province -- known as "the rice bowl" of China. It is estimated 7,000,000 persons of this province's population of 27,000,000 are approaching or are suffering starvation.



#### WHY NO POTATOES FOR EUROPE

With prospects of a record crop of early potatoes some people may ask: "Why not export potatoes and keep wheat at home?"

Here's the answer: First, early potatoes are highly perishable. The risk of spoilage is great since it is often impossible to ice the potatoes at the point where they are loaded into box cars.

Second, it takes an average of 300 cars to make a ship load. The temperature in the cars rises as the cars are laid by on a siding. Even if these "hot" potatoes are then loaded into a refrigerated ship it is almost impossible to bring their temperature down to a point where spoilage will not occur.

Third, when the potatoes reach Europe, there is delay in unloading, no icing facilities and more spoilage.

There is also a cost angle. European peoples fed wheat will be eating wheat delivered to them at a price approximately 15 percent above American ceilings. Potatoes, if they could be shipped without spoilage, by the time they reached Europe would be delivered at a total cost of approximately 100 percent above American ceiling prices.

That is, \$3 a bushel potatoes in the United States would be \$6 a bushel by the time they were delivered in Europe. This is true of fresh potatoes which require special handling and icing, and of dehydrated potatoes where packaging is the expensive item.

#### DAVIS FORESEES CONTINUING WORLD FOOD SHORTAGES

Chester C. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, emphasized the continuing nature of the world food crisis after an executive

meeting of the committee's staff in the White House. Mr. Davis said: "Every report coming before us makes it plain that the present famine is not a short-run emergency that ends on July 1.

"The present food shortages have been seriously aggravated by drought in many parts of the world, but even with good weather the wartime destruction of agricultural facilities will be felt for a long time. Farm animals and farm machinery have been destroyed. The strength of farm workers has been weakened by poor nutrition. Fertilizers are extremely short.

"The emphasis necessarily placed on the 120 days from March through June does not mean that the threat of famine will then be over. These 120 days are the first lap in the race; we have to limit, or untold millions of our fellow human beings will be eliminated. After we win that first sprint, there will be a breathing spell before mass hunger reappears in the late winter of 1947. This Nation should start to work now on a soundly constructed program to meet it."

#### DISTILLERS' GRAIN USE CUT TO 3 DAYS IN MAY

The Department of Agriculture has restricted distillers' use of grain to three days mashing capacity in May. In March and April the distillers were allowed 5 days. The

reduction to 3 days means that the permitted use of distillers will be not more than 2,500,000 bushels of grain during May, or 40% less than in March and April. No wheat and wheat products can be used. Only low-grade corn can be used -- corn grading below No. 3. The limitation on the percentage of rye which may be used is the same as in March and April. No distiller may exceed 6% of the total quantity of grain authorized to be mashed or 2,000 bu. of rye, whichever is greater. In no case shall the quantity of rye mashed exceed 15% of all grain authorized to be mashed during the month.



APRIL WHEAT AND FLOUR  
EXPORTS BELOW GOAL

Exports of U. S. wheat and flour equivalent totaled an estimated 1,144,000 long tons during the last ten days of April. This raised the total for the full month to 5,322,000 tons. Exports during the first four months of 1946 totaled 3,269,000 long tons against an export goal of 4,000,000 tons during that period. In addition, about 180,000 long tons of Canadian wheat milled in bond in the U. S. shipped making a total of 3,449,000 tons of wheat and flour equivalent from the U. S.

The largest shipments during the first four months were for UNRRA countries with a total of 1,312,000 tons. France and French North Africa received 766,000 tons, the British Empire 334,000 tons, U. S. Occupation Zones, 292,000 tons; Brazil, 141,000 tons and other countries smaller quantities. Of the total exports, approximately 1,071,000 tons were in the form of flour.

Officials stated that April exports were slowed by a scarcity of market supplies, pending (1) the acquisition of additional stocks from farms under the Department's bonus payment plan for both wheat and corn, (2) increasing effectiveness of Department programs restricting domestic distribution of wheat, and (3) more widespread conservation of flour, bread and other bakery products in homes, and in commercial and institutional eating places.

The Department expects exports to increase during the next two months, but stated that grain in volume will not reach the ports until mid-May.

ANDERSON OUTLINES  
LONG-RANGE PROBLEMS

The first bulwark for a self-sustaining agriculture is nationwide full employment, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson declared recently in a speech to the U. S. Chamber of Commerce at Atlantic City, N.J.

"Unless people are able to buy at fair prices all the balanced production that agriculture can turn out, farmers will be going broke and consumers going hungry," Mr. Anderson said.

Among other long-range problems facing farmers after the present famine are these, he added:

---Their capacity to produce may still run ahead of the amounts people can buy, even with full employment. This may require special consumption programs by the Government.

---The kinds of farm commodities produced must fit the demands of consumers.

---Some parts of the soil conservation job will still be too much for farmers acting as individuals.

---Agriculture still will need special machinery (such as the Ever-Normal granary) for carrying adequate reserves of food, feed, and fiber from bumper years into lean years.

---Farmers must be free of the fear of sudden collapse of prices and income.

He defined a "self-sustaining" agriculture as one in which farmers will have equality with other groups and be able to work with business and labor for the equal benefit of all.



FEED ORDER REVISIONS  
AFFECT POULTRYMEN

The Department of Agriculture has extended until June 1 the time in which poultrymen may reduce their flocks so as to be eligible to buy corn and other grains.

This is a revision of a war food order made effective April 1. The original order prohibited the purchase of grain or grain products between April 1 and September 30 to feed poultry in excess of 80 percent of the total number of birds fed during the same months of 1945.

The revision enables any feeder whose flock is in excess of the 80 percent to buy grain and grain products for his present flock until June 1, provided, he either (1) reduces, on or before June 1, his total flock to 80 percent of the average number fed by him during the April to September period of 1945, or (2) has reduced 30 percent by June 1 his mature stock on hand as of last January 1.

USDA ANNOUNCES CHEESE, DRIED  
MILK, BUTTER, SET-ASIDES

Producers of cheddar cheese will be required to set aside 40 percent of their production for the months of May and June for sale to Government agencies. These steps were taken to meet urgent needs overseas.

Military agencies require 20 million pounds, and USDA needs 100 million pounds for European countries. U. S. civilians will receive 600 million pounds of cheddar cheese, as compared with 525 million pounds in 1945.

Manufacturers of spray and roller process nonfat dry milk solids will be required to set aside 60 percent of their production during May and June. Twenty percent of the May production of creamery butter has been ordered set aside for sale to military agencies. This will enable the Army, Navy, and other war service agencies to buy butter at a time of seasonably high production. No butter will be set aside for export. The set-aside program is planned for May and June only.

BIGGER PORK AND  
LARD SET-ASIDES

The set-asides of pork by meat packing plants for Government purchase, has been raised from 13 to 15 percent of the live weight of hogs slaughtered and lard and pork fats set-asides

have been increased from 5 to 6 percent. The order affects federally-inspected plants in 37 States.

Under the new provisions, officials estimate that about 25 percent of current pork production and about 50 percent of present lard and pork fat output under federal inspection would be available for Government purchase in meeting foreign needs.

VERMONT PLANS MEETINGS  
ON 1947 ACP - MAY 6-10

The Vermont State PMA Committee is planning a series of area meetings to discuss practices and policies for developing the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program.

All county and community committeemen and office secretaries will attend the meetings which are scheduled for May 6 - 10.

\* \* \*

---Europe will not get back to normal food production for at least five years, according to a Department of Agriculture report released this week. Based on a study of agricultural conditions in Europe, the five-year forecast is a comparison with conditions after the First World War. The report points out that it took Europe seven years to restore its food production to a prewar level after World War I.



**WORLD POTATO PRODUCTION  
DROPS 11 PERCENT**

World production of potatoes harvested in the 1944-45 season is tentatively estimated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at 11 percent smaller than in 1944-45. The decline is attributed largely to smaller harvested acreage. Yields per acre also were below average.

Most of the acreage decreases occurred in Europe (excluding the Soviet Union), particularly in Germany, France, and Poland. The Soviet Union's acreage increased, but it remains substantially below prewar.

In North America, potato production in 1945 rose to 499 million bushels from 479 million the year before. The United States and Mexico produced large crops, but Canada's harvest was small, because of unusually low yields.

**WORLD GRAIN REPORTS** Low grain stocks in Canada, a short rice crop in Burma, smaller grain production in Chile, and increased U. S. rice exports figure in new reports on the world grain picture.

Canadian grain stocks on March 31 were the smallest in seven years. The greatest reduction was in wheat stocks, which stood at 213 million bushels -- less than one-half of a year earlier. The smaller 1945 crop and increased exports account for the decline.

The 1945-46 rice harvest in Burma, formerly the world's largest exporter of rice, was only 39 percent of the prewar average as a result of disorganized conditions and unfavorable rain. The estimated crop is less than pre-war consumption in Burma alone.

Chilean grain production was smaller during 1945-46 than in the preceding year, with wheat production falling about one million bushels. The rice crop of 8 million bushels in Chile was eight times as large as pre-war production, however.

Rice exports from the United States for the first half of the 1945-46 marketing year may exceed the wartime record. About 426 million pounds were exported during the half-year, principally to Cuba, the Netherlands Indies and the Philippines.

**MACHINERY PRODUCTION  
DOWN IN MARCH** Farm machinery production continued to decline in March, according to the Civilian Production Administration. March output totaled \$48,591,809, about one percent under February despite the longer work month. It was about 20 percent less than in January and 26 percent less than in March 1946. Effects of the recent steel strike are largely responsible for the decline. Further decreases are anticipated as result of the current coal shortage.

For the first quarter of 1946, farm machinery production was 10 percent less than for the first quarter of 1945. Major decreases were in harvesting machinery, wheel tractors, and repair parts. An upward trend was noted in the production of lighter farm equipment -- sprayers, water systems, pumps, windmills, and dairy equipment. A production comparison with 1945, first quarter, follows:

	1945	1946
Planting, seeding, and fertilizing. . .	\$ 5,836,693	\$ 4,559,234
Plows and listers. . . . .	4,785,633	4,806,585
Harvesting machinery . . . . .	13,739,180	10,082,945
Wheel-type tractors. . . . .	45,614,345	33,710,620
Dairy farm machinery & equipment . .	4,260,148	5,428,943
Repairs . . . . .	52,651,334	40,744,957



FARM LABOR                      Farm labor will continue to be limited throughout 1946 with  
REMAINS SCARCE                  seasonal labor presenting the biggest headaches. The outlook  
for year-around labor may brighten as returning servicemen and  
men from war industries turn to the farm for their livelihood.

After June 20, prisoners of war will no longer be available for seasonal crops as they have been for the last few years. They are expected, however, to help out in early spring sugar beet work.

Importations of foreign workers will be less than last year due to smaller appropriations and this will also decrease the number of mobile "task forces" available for seasonal work.

Volunteer workers again will have to carry a big load in filling on-the-spot shorttime farm jobs. This means that local part-time, vacation, and other workers, as well as those who can spend weekends and days away from regular employment, will need to lend a hand to help farmers.

On-the-job training for war veterans offers farmers an opportunity to ease their labor situation and is already beginning to move in high gear in some States. In Illinois, veterans under this program receive government allowances of \$60 to \$90 a month, which, added to their wages from farmers of \$100 to \$125, gives them cash wages of \$175 to \$200 a month. Considering the board and lodging that farm workers get from their employers, farm work under this program becomes very attractive for many returning G.I.'s. Some 300 high schools in Illinois have organized once-a-week classes in practical agriculture for veterans as required under this program.

EMERGENCY HOUSING              Tents and mess equipment to care for 50,000 transient farm  
FOR FARM LABOR                  workers will be made available for purchase by farmers  
and processors this year. The equipment consisting of tents,  
kitchen and mess equipment is war surplus and will provide emergency housing for farm workers in areas where transient labor is required.

Administration of the program will be under the farm labor supervisors of Extension Service and applications for these units will be made to County Extension Agents. Applicants will be provided with a check list of equipment that is available for purchase from the War Assets Administration.

OPA ACTIONS ON                  OPA has taken several steps recently in an effort to make  
BUILDING MATERIALS              more building materials available. A summary follows:

1. Prices of vitrified clay sewer pipe and allied products sold in the eastern and east central States increased by 15 percent. Products include clay building products such as flue lining, wall coping, septic tanks, segment blocks, filter block and liner plate. Production of these materials is expected to be resumed as a result of price increases which reflect recent approved wage increases.
2. To stimulate production of red cypress lumber for veterans' housing, OPA has granted a 10 percent increase in mill prices of Tide-water red cypress lumber.
3. An average increase of 12.3 percent over January 1946 levels has been granted manufacturers for all types of war air furnaces, including floor and wall furnaces. The increase particularly affects the small furnaces installed in small housing units.



**INFLATION THREAT TO  
FARMERS SAYS SECRETARY**

At this moment farmers stand in peril of runaway inflation which would lead to farm depression, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, testifying in support of price control extension, recently told the Senate Banking and Currency Committee.

The Secretary reviewed what happened after World War I. Farm prices shot upward in 1918 but the cost of things farmers had to buy went up even faster so that despite increased income, farmers' buying power declined. Then when prices broke in 1920 and 1921, farm prices went down much more than industrial prices.

He pointed out that agricultural prices have increased from 75 percent of parity at the beginning of the last war to their present 117 percent. If the next few months should follow the pattern of the inflation period of the early twenties, he warned, "We must be prepared to spend literally billions of dollars in attempts to keep farm prices in balance with other prices."

One of the most dangerous kinds of inflation is that of rising prices of farm land, he continued. Already farm real estate values are seventy percent above 1935-39 averages and the last 12 months has seen an advance of 13 percent in land prices.

**STATE AAA COMMITTEES  
NOW "PMA" COMMITTEES**

The designation of State Agricultural Conservation (AAA) Committees has been changed to State Production and Marketing Administration (PMA) Committees by PMA Administrator Robert H. Shields, Washington.

The change was made in line with the PMA policy of broadening the authority of State offices for centralized program administration. Mr. Shields said that in making new or replacement appointments to the State committees, it will be PMA policy to select men who, in addition to farm production, have had very definite experience in other phases of agricultural operations, including distribution, marketing and processing.

**FARM FAMILY GIVES CASH  
FOR FAMINE RELIEF**

Mr. and Mrs. Claude H. Canady, Nebraska farm people, have presented a check for \$1,030 to Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson to be used by UNRRA in purchasing food for famine areas.

The check represents the proceeds from the sale of grain from the Canady farm near Bloomfield, Nebraska. The grain was sold after Secretary Anderson and the President's Famine Emergency Committee recommended a reduction in the feeding of livestock to heavy weights and the marketing of grain for human consumption.

The Canadys came to Washington to present the check which was assigned to UNRRA Director F.H. LaGuardia.

**WHEAT ON THE MARCH!**

Secretary Anderson has sounded a note of new optimism, saying that America has a fighting chance to meet its six-month goal of wheat for famine relief by June 30. He made the statement soon after returning from No. Dakota and Minnesota where he and Director LaGuardia of UNRRA told farmers of the world-wide need for their grain. The Secretary warned, however, that transportation failures and other difficulties must be overcome.



#### TRANSPORTATION STILL PROBLEM

While supplies of motor trucks and parts promises to be more satisfactory this year, railroad cars may not be adequate to move agricultural commodities and food during the peak harvest period.

Largely responsible is the deterioration of railroad equipment and the difficulty of obtaining normal replacements during the war period. Available refrigerator cars reflect this as replacements are doing little more than meeting retirement of this year's worn-out cars.

Less serious than the refrigerator car shortage is that of boxcars for the movement of grain and grain products. More important than numbers is the decrease in cars suitable for grain shipping. During the war many linings and floors were severely damaged by loading cars with heavy machinery and munitions.

Containers used in marketing food products will be short again this year as material problems continue to be an important factor. Storage prospects are better than they have been for several years with enough dry storage for all purposes. Cooler space is expected to be adequate. Freezer space may create local problems through the summer.

#### SHARE OF FOOD DOLLAR Goes to Farmer

Farmers are now getting more actual cash from a family market basket of farm food products than they did back in 1920, at the peak of the post World War I inflation. Farmers' share of consumers' food dollar in February 1946 was 55 cents, contrasted with 43 cents in 1920 and 53 cents a year ago.

Farm food purchased by a consumer family of three averaged \$568 in 1920, compared to \$464 in February of this year. Despite this smaller cost to the consumer, the farmer's share in February was \$254 while in 1920 it was \$245.

Producers of farm foods have been receiving an increasing share of the consumers' food dollar during the last 10 years. The 1935-39 average share was 40 cents, a substantial increase from the low of 33 cents in 1933. Since 1940, the amount of farmers' share also has been climbing upward and hit a peak the last four months when farmers received 55 cents.

#### 1945 ACP PAYMENTS

About 45% of the total estimated payments under the 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program were certified for payment through April 19, 1946, according to reports from the Northeast State PMA offices. The amounts and percentage of payments certified by individual States follows: Maine, \$232,463 - 73.7%; New Hampshire, \$28,774 - 42.4%; Vermont, \$100,781 - 46.1%; Massachusetts, \$132,056 - 37.6%; Rhode Island, \$11,231 - 71.5%; Connecticut, \$1,334 - 5.3%; New York, \$731,400 - 37.3%; New Jersey, \$263,395 - 32.9%; Pennsylvania, \$1,147,141 - 55.4%; total, \$2,656,975 - 45%.

#### EGG PRICE REPORTS

State reports from the Northeast for the week ending April 24, 1946, indicate that egg prices advanced for the fourth consecutive week. This upward price trend now seems to be firmly established with the upward price movement occurring in all areas.

\* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass. Comm., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Adm., USDA  
May 9, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

Reports are that wheat and corn for the starving people of Europe and Asia are rolling in from the farms of the Wheat and Corn Belts.

Under the special program now in effect, community committeemen are going to the farmers who are known to have some wheat or corn left beyond their own farm needs and asking them if they won't deliver it promptly in order that it may be available during this critical period. There is every indication that the farmers are responding promptly and liberally.

There may not, and probably will not, be enough wheat to meet the whole need, but whatever shortage there is will be mainly because there isn't wheat enough -- not because farmers are holding it back.

The story that community committeemen are telling to farmers includes an offer of a bonus of 30 cents a bushel for either wheat or corn delivered under this program. As to corn, the indications are that the total 50 million bushels included for this specific purpose is likely to be contracted for within a few days. The offer is not to remain open after the required quantity is obtained.

In the Northeast, the purchase program is being carried out only in Pennsylvania and Western New York. At last reports, there were nearly 5 million bushels of wheat on New York farms and well toward 4 million on Pennsylvania farms. It was a very bad harvest season last year and some of the wheat is not fit for shipment as human food, but it is hoped that there is enough of good enough quality so that these two States can help materially.

As for corn, Pennsylvania is said to have about 3 million bushels more in storage than it usually has at this time of year. Last year was an excellent one for corn in Pennsylvania. The crop was large and of high quality.

There is likely to be some criticism of the policy of accepting wheat and corn from these Northeastern States because of the shortage of feed in the Northeast as a whole.

There were at least three considerations, however, in the decision to open a program here. The first, and perhaps the least in real importance, is that it would be discrimination against Northeastern grain growers to refuse them the opportunity to receive the 30-cent per bushel premium that other grain growers in the country can get. To be sure, there are reports of black market operations paying prices far above ceilings, but there are still a great many farmers who want to stay law-abiding, and they are entitled to the premium if they want it.

The second consideration was that much of the grain -- especially the corn -- that is being offered under this program would never go to market except for the appeal to relieve suffering. It is comfortably stored in the corncribs

(continued)



(Radio transcription - continued)

and grain bins of farmers who don't ordinarily sell corn. Having a little extra there just gives them a comfortable feeling of security against a possible poor crop another year. But when these men are asked whether they won't spare 100 bushels, or perhaps 200, in order to extend mercy to the suffering, they are willing to upset their ordinary procedures and take the extra risk in order to do it. The last thing they would think of doing would be to sell the corn in the ordinary market.

To the extent to which this is true, the program does not take any grain away from feed channels, but it does directly swell the available food resources.

The third consideration involves a difficult point of policy but one that will be supported by right-thinking people everywhere. It is the principle that if there must be a choice between lack of food for animals and for human beings, the human beings are to have the food.

I don't think we have to make any apologies for giving farmers an opportunity to send their wheat to the starving people of Europe, however bad our feed shortages are in the Northeast -- and those shortages are bad, there's no denying that, with a threat of even worse conditions in the future.

But, bad as they are, we have nothing here as bad as the condition the children and women of Poland face today.

There is one thing worth remembering. We people in America are on trial. Do we have the human qualities that are necessary in the people who have the prime responsibility of building a world in which peace can live in the atomic age? If we don't, there is a dreary outlook for our children. No other people in the world but we have the opportunity to do the key job of building that peace. We can't do it unless we can become understanding and helpful neighbors of the tortured people all across this world.



1.42  
Ad 4A8r  
Up. 2  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.

May 15, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

MAY 24 1946

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

WINTER WHEAT PROSPECTS  
DROP 88 MILLION BUSHELS

Prospects for the 1946 U. S. winter wheat harvest fell off by 88 million bushels during April. The crop is now forecast at 743 million bushels compared with 823 million bushels last year.

The May crop report of the Department of Agriculture said plantings of spring wheat were practically completed by May 5 under near-ideal conditions.

The 1946 farm production picture as a whole continues bright, the Department said. Above-average temperatures for April pushed most crops ahead of normal for May 1.

Spring truck crops are expected to turn out one-sixth larger than the record tonnage of last spring. The condition of early potatoes was the highest ever reported for May 1. Pastures, while in not quite so good condition as a year ago, were in better shape than for any other May 1 since 1929.

While the outlook for fruits is still unclear because of the undetermined effects of spring frosts and freezes, the prospects look good.

USDA ANNOUNCES

GRAIN PRICE INCREASE

To provide more grain for shipment abroad, the USDA, Office of Economic Stabilization and OPA have announced increases in grain price ceilings. The increases are: for corn, 25 cents per bushel; wheat, 15 cents; oats, 5 cents; barley, 9 cents; rye, 10 cents; grain sorghums, 18 cents per hundredweight. These increases will be added to the present price ceilings in each locality.

Termination of the 30-cent bonus corn purchase program on May 11, also was announced. Payment of the 30-cent bonus on wheat delivered to the Government will be continued through May 25 as originally planned. The announcement stated that the grain price ceiling schedule provides an ample allowance to reflect increases in parity for the year ahead and can be expected to continue without change at least through June 30, 1947.

The Government price policy was issued to remove uncertainty concerning grain price ceilings between now and June 20, 1947. It also aims to encourage grain movements for shipment abroad, for human consumption in this country and for essential livestock feeding purposes in deficit grain producing areas. The policy was also initiated to bring about the proper balance between livestock numbers and grain supplies available for feed.



NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE  
STAFF HEARS CLAUDE CANADAY

Claude H. Canaday, the Nebraska farmer who gave \$1,030, the proceeds from his sale of grain, to UNRRA for the purpose of aiding relief abroad, addressed members of the Northeast Regional Office staff on Wednesday, May 8. Mr. and Mrs. Canaday came to Washington to present the check to Secretary of Agriculture Anderson and also met President Truman at the White House during their visit.

Mr. Canaday's remarks at the staff meeting May 8 follow:

"It is very true we will have something to face when we go back home, with our work a little behind. Our neighbors will be further ahead with their corn planting. But I feel that if we have done some good, we'll feel repaid.

"We will build a better world understanding by cooperating, by giving the Europeans or Asiatics -- whoever they happen to be --- giving them a helping hand, helping them up --- rather than giving them a kick down. It was with this in mind we made our first contribution to help the famine situation throughout the world.

"You fellows have been promoting the best practices in agriculture in a good many ways. We farmers don't always tell you how much we appreciate it. Even those who were most critical in years past, have seen those practices work out on the farms of their neighbors who have adopted these soil-conserving practices, and many of these critical fellows have gradually adopted some of these practices even though they may not go along with your program.

"I would feel very guilty indeed if I had not been able to show some appreciation by now cooperating with your great effort in converting some of the grain which we have produced into human food and donating it or making it available wherever the need happens to be. We don't just have to supply those who have been our Allies. If we overlook that narrow view, and just supply the need wherever it exists, I believe we will build this friendship, which in my opinion comes nearer to winning the peace."

FOREIGN RELIEF WHEAT  
REPORT - NORTHEAST

According to a May 14 progress report on the wheat purchase program to encourage farmers to sell their wheat now for shipment abroad, in the Northeast Region New York farmers had delivered 9,326 bushels to country shippers of an estimated 150,000 bushels to be delivered by May 25.

No deliveries have been reported as yet in Pennsylvania where it is estimated farmers may deliver 50,000 bushels for export.

EUROPE GETS 85 PERCENT  
OF WHEAT EXPORTS

Hungry European countries received about 85 percent of U. S. wheat and flour exports during the first four months of 1946, according to Office of Requirements and Allocations, PMA. The lion's share of this amount was the 38 percent exported through UNRRA to liberated countries who, because of the ravages of war, are unable to buy their own supplies. Of the remaining amount, France (including French North Africa and French occupation zones) received 22 percent.

Wheat supplies exported to U. S. occupation zones and to British Empire (principally India and occupation zones) were 9 and 10 percent, respectively, of the total. To Netherlands and Belgium went 2½ and 1½ percent. The remaining wheat went to 34 countries chiefly in Latin and So. America but also some to Cuba, Spain, Portugal, Philippines and other countries in Asia and Africa.



EUROPEANS CAN MILL ALL  
THE WHEAT WE SEND

European flour mills have the capacity to mill all of our anticipated shipments of wheat to Europe.

UNRRA points out that there are several reasons why wheat instead of flour is preferred for shipment abroad:

Purchases of wheat rather than flour permit UNRRA to stretch their funds as far as possible. However, during the present emergency UNRRA will take either wheat or flour if they are available for export. Wheat is easier to ship and lends itself to loading in ships much better than flour. Wheat is less apt to spoil in the holds of ships.

The extraction rate of flour is much higher in most foreign countries and has increased during the emergency until it is about 90 percent on the average. (The U. S. extraction rate is 80 percent). Reports from Greece indicate whole wheat, chaff and all, is being ground because there's some small nourishment in chaff.

Baking processes abroad can be more stable if the flour utilized is milled there according to usual customs of the area. In addition, by milling abroad, much-needed employment can be provided in war-stricken countries.

The immediate need for food is so great and supplies so limited that it is not considered feasible to route wheat to U. S. mills instead of transporting it direct to port areas and thus getting food to starving people by the quickest means.

Recent figures of the Department of Agriculture show that about 30 percent of our total wheat and wheat flour exports during the first 4 months of 1946 went in the form of flour.

PENNSYLVANIA OBSERVES  
MIRACLE OF FOOD DAY

Churches of all denominations throughout Pennsylvania observed "Miracle of Food Day" on May 5 with special sermons on food and other activities to help people

understand and help in the World Famine.

Twenty-eight radio stations broadcast a transcription, including music and a message from Bishop John S. Stamm of the Evangelical Church of Harrisburg and President of the Pennsylvania State Council of Churches, Rabbi Philip David Booktaber, Rev. Reid, and Rev. Frank Kimper of Harrisburg also participated in the transcription.

Radio station WSBA of York cut the transcription by using its staff and facilities free of charge to aid the program.

This was the third annual "Miracle of Food Day" sponsored by the State PMA Committee in Pennsylvania. This year a record number of churches and radio stations participated.

✻   ✻   ✻

---Herbert Hoover, meeting with Generallissimo Chiang Kai-shek at Shanghai, said the FOOD NEEDS OF CHINA ARE "ENORMOUS." He said that whole villages in the interior face death "within a few weeks" unless supplies reach those critical areas.

Forty States embracing 90 percent of the U. S. population now permit bakers to reduce the weight of their products by 10 percent.



**NORTHEAST COUNTY ASSISTANTS  
TO MEET IN HERSHEY, PENNA.**

County Assistants in Conservation of the Northeast Region, PMA, will meet in Hershey, Pennsylvania, on June 4, 5, and 6.

The program for the first day will include talks on the agricultural situation, program policies, and organization by Dr. Sherman E. Johnson, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and the Northeast Regional Office staff. Byron Leonard, New York farmer fieldman will talk on "Objectives" and a skit will be presented on "How a good county assistant would instruct community committeemen" - cast to be announced. Answers to questions on administrative and program problems submitted in advance by county assistants will be answered by members of the Regional Office staff.

A talk by W. D. Ellison, Soil Conservation Service, will be followed by a movie "Raindrop Erosion," on the second day's program. Committees will be set up to cover Public Relations and Development of Committee System and a field trip is scheduled for this day also.

On the last day of the conference, reports and discussions will follow meetings of the committees and a summary of the conference will be given by A. W. Manchester, Regional Director.

**FALL PIG GOAL**            The national goal for pigs this fall has been set 10 percent  
**BELOW LAST YEAR**       below last fall with a reduction of 9 percent called for in  
Corn Belt areas and 12 percent elsewhere.

The national goal announced by the Department of Agriculture is 31,375,000 head of fall pigs, less than last year but more than the 1934-43 average. The need to ship more grains abroad to relieve famine is the reason for the reduction.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson outlined prime factors in setting the fall pig goal as:

1. Critical demand for food grains for foreign relief.
2. Scarcity of feed supplies due largely to low quality 1945 corn crop.
3. Over-all need for feed to maintain adequate levels of livestock, dairy and poultry production, which are now high in relation to pre-war output.
4. Uncertainty of this year's grain production from which 1946 fall pigs will be largely fed.

**FOOD DIFFICULTIES  
FOR NEXT 4 OR 5 YEARS,  
PREDICTS F.A.O.**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations declares that the world food situation is "likely to remain critical in one way or another for the next four or five years." The FAO has called an eight-day conference in Washington beginning May 20 to look at the long-range situation and to encourage the development of four-and-five-year plans to carry the world through the present crisis into a "permanent world food policy."

Food shortages generally will be at the "critical" stage at least until after crops are harvested in 1947, assuming that the average or better than average weather prevails for the 1946 and 1947 seasons.

For the next year, the FAO estimates that the four chief exporting nations will have only around 20,000,000 metric tons of wheat to send to deficit countries of Europe and Asia with minimum needs of 30,000,000 tons.



# MILK, EGG PRODUCTION IS STILL HIGH

on record for April.

U. S. milk production on farms during April was only two percent below the record output for that month set a year ago. Milk produced per cow was the highest

The nation's hens and pullets on farms laid nearly 7 billion eggs during April -- one percent more than in April 1945, and the second highest volume on record.

# LIVESTOCK MARKETING

Production of federally-inspected meat increased 12 percent over the preceding week during the week ended May 4 when the slaughter control program went into effect. Slaughtering in federally inspected plants was about equal to the same week a year ago.

War-time livestock slaughter controls were recently reinstated to curb black markets in meats. Before the controls were reinstated, many small packers -- non federally inspected plants -- were killing several times their normal proportion of the available supply of hogs, cattle and calves.

Market reports from seven major livestock markets show that this spring hogs are being sold at lighter weights than a year earlier, but weights are still heavier than average. The average weight of butcher hogs at these markets was 246 pounds during the week ended May 4. If hogs were sold at 225 pounds or less it would contribute greatly to grain conservation.

Cattle receipts at 12 major markets ran about the same as in recent weeks, indicating that the tight feed situation has not yet forced herd liquidations.

Sheep and lamb receipts fell off after May 1 when subsidy payments to producers were reduced. This indicates that most slaughter lambs have been drained off of feedlots and wheat pastures.

The OPA has placed custom slaughter limitations on lambs, sheep and yearlings. The purpose is to repair the break in normal distribution channels by discouraging custom slaughtering for retailers, and to keep wholesale and retail prices within ceiling levels. Sheep and lambs are not subject to ceiling prices.

# HOG SLAUGHTER QUOTA INCREASED

Because of a substantial increase in the marketing of hogs, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has increased the quota percentage on the number of hogs Federally-inspected packers may kill under the slaughter control program in effect since April 28.

This action increases the total live weight of hog slaughter permitted by Federally-inspected slaughterers from 80 to 90 percent of the amount they slaughtered during any accounting period of 1944. The new quota applies to slaughter during the entire month of May.

# 1945 ACP PAYMENTS

Agricultural Conservation Program 1945 payments were certified as follows by Northeast State PMA Offices through May 3, 1946: Maine, \$245,983 - 78% of total; New Hampshire, \$30,432 - 55.3%; Vermont, \$125,042 - 52.9%; Massachusetts, \$179,913 - 58.3%; Rhode Island, \$11,382 - 72.4%; Connecticut, \$33,523 - 18.3%; New York, \$998,959 - 52.6%; New Jersey, \$430,506 - 53.7%; Pennsylvania, \$1,291,811 - 67.5%; total, \$3,347,551.



USDA URGES POULTRY  
CULLING TO CUT  
PRODUCTION COSTS

Following the steps taken recently to encourage movement of grain for shipment abroad, USDA poultry officials have urged the nation's poultrymen to cull non-productive birds more intensively to reduce production costs of both eggs and meat chickens. The higher ceiling prices placed in effect on corn, wheat, and other grains and proteins to make more available for direct human consumption do not permit feeding "boarders" in the average farm poultry flock, officials point out.

"There are many non-productive birds in poultry flocks today eating feed grain at the rate of 4 to 5 pounds a month per bird," W. D. Termohlen, Director of the Poultry Branch, PMA, said. "There are also many hens which are not producing enough eggs to pay for the feed they eat. Collectively, these non-productive and low-producing birds consume an enormous quantity of feed with little compensation for the poultryman. The higher ceiling prices set for feed grains and proteins are bound to have material effect upon the cost of egg and meat chicken production in the average flock. But cost of production can be held to a minimum in every flock by carefully considered culling."

Mr. Termohlen further stated, "Because of the serious food situation abroad and the feed situation in this country, we must get the utmost from every pound of grain fed to poultry or livestock. There is, therefore, an urgent need to cull in May and June about two-thirds of the total number of birds culled in May, June, July and August last year. Expressed in round numbers this means culling one non-productive or low-producing bird in May and June out of each seven birds in the flock as compared to one out of nine culled in the same period last year."

OPA PRICE ACTIONS

Fresh apricots, sweet cherries, plums, and Italian prunes have been exempted from price control by OPA.

Ceilings on watermelons have been suspended because of the exceptionally large crop expected.

Ceiling prices for late apples sold after August 19 have been reduced two cents a bushel — from \$2.75 to \$2.73 a bushel. This reduction balances an increase of 30 cents a bushel for early apples — from \$2.85 to \$3.15.

OPA has also announced suspension of price ceilings on processed (canned, preserved, and frozen) berries and berry products, except cranberries.

MARKETING TO PLAY  
MAJOR ROLE IN  
POSTWAR AGRICULTURE

"As long as people anywhere are ill-fed, ill-housed, or ill-clothed, the only sane and conclusive answer to the problems of over-production is an expansion of markets through expanding consumption," Robert H. Shields,

PMA Administrator, told officials of the National Marketing Association recently.

Even after the famine emergency is over, Shields explained, we can count on a level of farm production at least 25 percent above prewar. The basic problem in such highly productive agriculture resolves itself finally into a search for ways of expanding consumption, he said. He summarized the problems ahead as follows: (1) Wartime price controls and subsidies must be eliminated as soon as possible, but in way that will help agriculture reconvert soundly from war to peace; (2) While carrying out price-support commitments, we should be working out permanent price and income policies; (3) Interstate trade barriers must be reviewed; (4) Marketing services, such as inspection and market news, need to be strengthened; (5) Market terminals must be improved and modernized in many of the principal cities to eliminate unnecessary duplication and to prevent waste and deterioration of perishable foods.



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Br., PMA  
Station WBZ, Boston, Mass.  
May 16, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.

Food is the central item in today's news. As a matter of fact, the four primitive necessities -- food, clothing, housing and fuel -- seem to make up most of the news. Our boasted civilization hasn't gotten us very far away from our elementary wants.

There is one splendid thing that has happened in regard to food. The evidence is piling up that the great majority of the American people are ready to do whatever is necessary to make sure that this country does its job in relieving world famine. The polls show that, if needed, over two-thirds of the American people are ready for food rationing.

Many of us are apt to be too much disturbed by the loud voices of the few who are pleading for some special privilege, and asserting that they represent the general attitude. Time and again it has been proved that when the quiet voice of the great majority of Americans is finally heard, it is on the constructive side that puts the general interest ahead of special privilege. That voice now makes it clear that Americans are ready to share their food with the hungry.

There has been quite a change in our thinking about food. Most of us no longer put the first emphasis on the United States food situation. It is world hunger -- world shortages -- world supplies and prospects, that is the ultimate consideration now. That attitude and concern are good omens for the future. Extended to other fields, it means that we as a people can do our part in building lasting peace. We have what it takes.

But United States food is in such a key position just now that the facts about it are watched around the world. The report of crop conditions on the first of May in this country came out last week, and has been very widely reported. It probably is not necessary to caution again that May reports are very preliminary... Abnormal weather or unusual happenings may bring final yields far from those indicated now. But as a rule, the May report gives a pretty good indication of much that lies ahead.

At this time the center of interest in the report is on wheat -- because it is with wheat that we can extend most of our aid to foreign countries. The May first wheat report is not quite as good as had been hoped for. Nevertheless, there is still reasonable ground to look forward to a billion-bushel wheat crop. That's a big one, though well below last year's record.

It's too early to do much estimating about most of the other grain crops. It's been a good spring for getting spring work done and it seems sure now that these other crops are being planted early and in well prepared soil. Their start, at least, is much better than that of a year ago.



The national outlook for hay and pasture is excellent -- almost up to the phenomenal conditions of a year earlier. A very big crop of early potatoes seems assured, and the general outlook for fruits and vegetables is somewhat better than average.

Milk production was down about two percent last month from the same month a year ago because of a three percent decrease in the number of cows. Egg production has been running very high, and the number of young chickens on farms on May 1 was about the same as a year earlier -- a little above in the western and north central states and a little below in the east and south.

At the moment, it looks like another big year in food production, although not another record. It will be hard for some time to beat the records that were made in the years when we had big accumulated stocks of grain and imports of grain to feed to our swollen numbers of livestock. It looks now as though the next record would have to wait for either a year of very exceptional weather or a large increase in the amount of fertilizer available for American crops. Too much of the good land is in crops now to have any very large increase in acreage possible. It's too bigger yields that we shall have to look for new records.

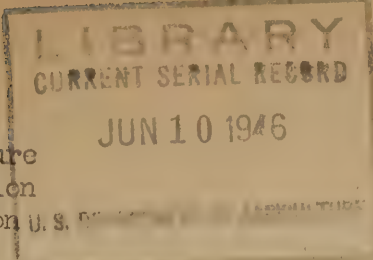
There is every reason to believe that the very best that the American farmers can do will not be enough to relieve American consumers from the necessity of substantial conservation in food use, if we are to do our part in helping the war-ruined people across the water.

- # -

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



1.42  
Ad 4445



United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Washington 25, D. C.

May 22, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

**SHIELDS DISCUSSES  
1946-47 WHEAT PROGRAM**

Need for large overseas shipments of both wheat and flour will continue during the 1946-47 season, R.H. Shields, head of the USDA Production and Marketing

Administration, recently told millers in Chicago.

World production prospects are encouraging but they give no cause at all for optimism, he said. As we go into a new crop year, wheat carry-overs will be greatly reduced from last July and we can't expect war-stricken countries to continue another year on near-starvation diets.

"No one likes the present situation, with its shortages and uncertainties," Shields told the millers. "We feel that it must be faced squarely in the light of best information so our neighbors across the sea -- livestock and poultry feeders -- feed industry -- milling industries can know about what to expect during the coming year. None of us in the Department of Agriculture want to restrict the activities of any industry, any more than you want us to. We have tried to hold restrictions to a minimum but the cold facts of the famine emergency have forced us to take action which of course would not even be considered in normal times."

The tentative 1946-47 wheat program announced by the Department includes:

- Price phases for 1946-47 already announced resulting in sharp reductions in the amount of wheat fed to livestock.
- About 85 million bushels of wheat for seed.
- About two million bushels for industrial uses compared with 20 million bushels this year and 82 in 1944-45. No wheat for brewing or distilling.
- Eighty percent flour extraction will be continued.
- Use of wheat for domestic flour to be held to 85 percent of 1945.
- One-half of all wheat purchased by commercial operators to be sold to CCC.
- Wheat shipments from the Southwest to be restricted for export and to special permits in order to conserve transportation.
- Further limitations will be placed on use of wheat by feed manufacturers as other feed grain situations improve.
- Voluntary conservation program will be continued.
- 250 million bushels of wheat for export.



WE CAN -- IF WE WILL,  
HOOVER DECLARES

Herbert Hoover, reporting to the American people on his world survey of the food situation, extended a ray of hope for "mastering" the famine crisis -- "if we can succeed in persuading every man and woman, every nation to do their utmost."

The former President pinned this hope mainly on these three appeals:

1. Still more intensive conservation of breadstuffs and fats in North America. "I earnestly hope that every American will remember that an invisible guest sits with him at every meal."
2. "We have need that every farmer must bring every grain of cereal to market."
3. Still further cooperation by other nations. Mr. Hoover, at the request of President Truman, will visit the Latin-American states to consult with them in the near future.

In calling for still greater sacrifice and effort by the more fortunate people Mr. Hoover declared: "Hunger hangs over the homes of more than 800,000,000. He made a special plea that more be done to feed the children of hunger-ridden lands. "Civilization marches forward upon the feet of healthy children. It is not too late to stop this most costly retreat and its debacle of endless evil."

FARMERS ARE DELIVERING  
WHEAT FOR FAMINE EMERGENCY

Farmers are moving wheat and lots of it under the Government's certificate-bonus purchase program.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson reported May 13 that 23,447,000 bushels had been moved under this plan up to May 9. Deliveries nearly tripled during the preceding week. Unofficial reports indicate that farmers have delivered another 15,000,000 bushels or more since May 9.

According to a May 17 report, New York farmers had delivered 32,974 bushels to CCC and Pennsylvania farmers on May 20 had delivered 13,211 bushels.

The Secretary announced that deliveries of corn under the bonus purchase program totaled 31,178,000 bushels. This program was ended May 11. The bonus corn is to be used for export in the form of whole corn and corn products and also for essential uses in this country.

Saturday, May 25, has been announced as the closing date for farmers to deliver wheat and collect the bonus of 30 cents a bushel. The certificate feature -- under which farmers can receive a contract of sale and wait to select a prevailing market price anytime before next March 31 -- continues beyond May 25.

PROMOTE FAMINE CAMPAIGN  
BY ADVERTISING MATS IN N.H.

New Hampshire reports that the "Manchester Union," New Hampshire's largest daily paper, is cooperating in the Famine Emergency Campaign by using mats made available by the Advertising Council, Inc. This is one very effective way of appealing to the public and State and County Emergency Food Program Managers are urged to obtain the sponsorship of local advertising featuring these appeals.

\* \* \*

---"Thirty years ago" Cy Barker says he was "one of the first" New York State farmers to buy a carload of lime.



FAMINE NOTES  
FROM ABROAD

Latest reports on famine conditions received by UNRRA include these highlights:

Poland -- New restrictions include three meatless days a week, reduction of meat portions to 3½ ounces on the other four days, and closing of all meat-canning factories on the meatless days. Further restrictions limit the use of higher grades of bread and flour to hospitals, convalescent, childrens' and nursing homes. Bread rations are becoming increasingly spasmodic throughout the country. Only about 4,000,000 people currently are getting guaranteed bread rations and 2,500,000 hitherto dependent on the free market for food purchases are faced with a breadless diet unless imports of bread grains can be stepped up.

Philippines -- Frank S. Gaines, Chief of the UNRRA Mission to the Philippines said that an acute food shortage seems likely within 90 days, with rice output 40 percent under the prewar figure. A private Philippine War Relief Mission worker said 10,000 people already had died of starvation, mostly in the northern Luzon Mountains, and "50,000 more face the same grim prospect unless relief comes and comes quickly."

Austria -- UNRRA nutritionists visiting Lainz Hospital, Vienna, were shown hunger victims and tubercular patients. The Vienna Health office stated that for the whole year 1945 there were 27,095 reported cases of tuberculosis, and for the first three months of 1946 there were 28,290 reported cases. During March, 30 percent of the cases suffering from starvation diseases died before hospital treatment could save them.

Italy -- The worst locust plague in Sardinia history, reported to four layers thick and two and one-half miles wide and 30 miles long, is marching in the direction of the island's crop lands, leaving a barren, waste behind it. "Unless this menace is checked by July," said an UNRRA dispatch, "the plague of locusts may completely extinguish plant and vegetable life on the island, rendering existence there impossible for man and animals."

RELIEF DONATIONS HANDLED  
BY VOLUNTEER AGENCIES

Many people, in addition to the conservation measures they already are practicing, wish to make personal contributions to the Emergency Food Program.

This can be done in three ways: By making a donation of food or money for food to the Emergency Food Collection, 100 Maiden Lane, N.Y. 7, N.Y.; by purchasing a standard food package from CARE, Inc., 50 Broad St., N.Y. 4, N.Y.; or by supporting a specialized program, such as child feeding, through one of the member groups of the Am. Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, 122 E. 22nd St. N.Y.

FMA Administrator Shields has made the following statement relative to the Department of Agriculture's position regarding such activities: "... The Department is carrying out measures on an extensive scale designed to achieve the maximum conservation of food to make more available for relief feeding abroad. However, it has no action responsibility in the volunteer contribution of canned foods and live animals. Persons requesting information should be referred to local organizations sponsoring such programs or to UNRRA in Washington.

"The Department does not oppose contributions of live animals, but because of practical difficulties involved, it does not actively recommend such contributions for shipment abroad. As with contributions of canned foods, Department representatives have no responsibility for assembling and handling contributed animals. If an individual wishes to donate an animal, it is suggested that it be sold (preferably to another producer in the case of a dairy heifer) and the cash turned over to the proper agency for transmittal to UNRRA. UNRRA cannot handle contributed livestock in less than carload lots. . . . "



INTERNATIONAL FOOD  
CONFERENCE MEETS IN WASHINGTON

More than 130 representatives from 18 nations began meeting in Washington, May 20, to develop a positive program to meet the immediate famine and to cope with long-range food problems.

The conference was under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, headed by Sir John Orr, Director-General of FAO. Sir John has outlined three lines of action for this meeting, called several weeks in advance of the next scheduled FAO gathering:

1. Measuring prospective world supplies and demands for food for the near-future and providing for a continuous review of the estimates.
2. Recommending the best ways of using current supplies and of getting greatest possible food production in 1947.
3. Working out a long-range world food policy designed to protect both farmers and consumers.

Sir. John said that, while shortages concern us now, there are dangers later of production surpluses for which there is no "economic demand."

DODD FAVORS GREATER  
INDUSTRIAL USE  
OF FARM PRODUCTS

Undersecretary of Agriculture W. E. Dodd recently testified before the Senate Agriculture Committee in favor of proposed legislation to make greater industrial use of surplus farm crops.

"We believe that such a program is a logical expansion of the farm programs developed under the Agricultural Adjustment Act which provided machinery for adjusting farm production and for orderly marketing of farm products," Dodd said.

Greater industrial use of farm products would siphon off many surpluses before it became necessary to impose acreage and marketing controls, he added.

"If possible, we must avoid going back to the production control program of the thirties," Mr. Dodd continued. "We want farmers to be able to produce to the limit of their resources and we want consumers to be able to have the benefits of that abundance in the form of more and better products."

His written statement to the committee used the production of industrial alcohol from corn as a good example of industrial utilization of farm crops. Experience gained from alcohol production from corn during the war indicates that surplus corn in a normal year could be made in alcohol at a cost to the Government of only about one-half of the average annual prewar AAA payments for allotments and price supports.

MOLASSES FOR FEED

Imported molasses will be available to help relieve animal feed shortages in this country, according to the Civilian Production Administration.

This molasses will be made available from Government stocks and from private imports, in addition to individual feed manufacturers' quotas on certification from the Department of Agriculture that an individual feed mixer requires such molasses because of feed shortages in a particular area.

\* \* \*

--Potatoes, oranges, lemons, onions, carrots, cabbage, and turkeys are expected to be plentiful throughout most of the country in June.



**BALE TIE SHORTAGE  
TO CONTINUE**

Surplus wire held by the War Assets Administration has been channeled to hay bale tie mills to permit capacity production but ties will still be in short supply for the second half of 1946.

Mills which were closed down or running part time will get 2,500 tons of surplus wire held by WAA. This will permit capacity operation for 30 to 45 days. Other mills having raw materials to make their own wire are not running near capacity and will continue to do so if coal is available.

However, production during the first half of the year will still fall from 25,000 to 30,000 tons short of farmers' needs. Demand for bale ties during 1946 is estimated at 110,000 tons.

Bale tie production in 1945 was 105,000 tons -- about twice the tonnage produced in any of the five years preceding the war. Despite this fact, it was inadequate to meet farmers' needs.

**FARM MACHINERY  
PRICES INCREASED**

An increase of 5 percent in the manufacturers' list prices of farm machinery has been authorized by the OPA. The increase was granted to cover the advance in manufacturers' material and labor costs.

Ceiling prices on farm machinery repair and replacement parts remain unchanged. Therefore, according to the OPA, farmers will pay on the average 3 percent more for new equipment and repair parts.

Manufacturers will receive a new increase of 10 percent. About half of it will be absorbed through dealer margins.

**FEED CEILINGS BOOSTED** OPA has given mixed feed manufacturers permission to raise their ceiling prices immediately to reflect recent grain and feed ceiling increases. Previously, manufacturers had to select a "pricing day" to which their prices would be held for the current pricing week.

**HATCHERY PRODUCTION** Tight feed supplies have been the main factor in a sharp drop in the demand for chicks and the prospective early close of hatcheries this year, the USDA reported. The demand for chicks held up fairly well during April but is now off sharply compared with last season. Most hatcheries contemplate discontinuing operations by mid-May.

The number of chicks hatched during April totaled 340,493,000 compared with 339,469,000 in April last year -- an increase of less than 1 percent. The number of eggs in incubators on May 1 was 26% less than the number in incubators on May 1 a year ago. A decrease of 63% in the number of chicks booked on May 1 for later delivery compared with May 1 last year indicates that the hatch during the next several months will be much below last year. There were 458,609,000 chicks and young chickens of this year's hatchings on farms May 1 -- about the same as a year ago, but 21% above the 10-year average.

Hatcheries reporting turkey operations during April reported 2% more turkey poults hatched than in April last year. The number of poults booked on May 1 was 31% less than the number booked on May 1 last year.



EARLY POTATOES  
MOVE TO MARKET

Early potatoes are moving steadily into market, with shipments heavy throughout the entire Gulf areas. Shipments are underway from States as far north as South Carolina. North Carolina, somewhat delayed by rainy weather, will be shipping next week.

Prospects are for a bumper early crop of best quality potatoes --- estimated between 70 and 75 million bushels. Last year's crop was about 65 million bushels, and the 10-year average, 49 million bushels.

Support prices for early potatoes are 5 cents a hundredweight below last year, and vary from State to State. Supports in the Gulf area are generally \$2.35 ranging downward to \$2 in California for the months of May and June.

1946 FARM OUTPUT MAY BE  
SLIGHTLY BELOW LAST YEAR

Total farm production for 1946 is being estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at one percent below last year but still 31 percent above the

1935-39 average. Total food production (which excludes such crops as cotton) may be down 3 percent to about 33 percent above the 1935-39 level.

American civilians probably will eat more food during 1946 than ever before and about 14 percent more than the average per person during the prewar years of 1935-39, according to BAE.

Civilians should get about 2 percent more food this year than last, with more frozen vegetables and fruits, meats, fresh and frozen fish, turkey, cheese, ice cream, fluid milk and cream, coffee and tea.

There will be about the same per person amounts as last year for civilians of fresh and canned fruits, vegetables, potatoes, lard, rice, cocoa, and sugar. There will be less butter, margarine, other fats, chicken, eggs, wheat and corn products and sweet potatoes.

WELLS NAMED  
CHIEF OF BAE

O. V. Wells has been appointed chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Howard R. Tolley who left to become chief economist and director of the Division of Economics and Marketing of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Born in Mississippi in 1903, Mr. Wells first joined the Department of Agriculture in 1929. He served for a time with the AAA.

1945 ACP PAYMENTS

Agricultural Conservation Program 1945 payments were certified as follows by Northeast State PMA Offices through

May 10, 1946 (New Jersey and Pennsylvania reports were through May 3): Maine, \$250,333 - 79.4% of total estimate; New Hampshire, \$30,432 --55.3%; Vermont, \$144,288 - 66.2%; Massachusetts, \$199,955 - 65.4%; Rhode Island, \$11,382 - 72.4%; Connecticut, \$38,881 - 21.2%; New York, \$1,049,292 - 54.2%; New Jersey, \$430,506 -- 55.7%; Pennsylvania, \$1,291,811 -- 67.5%; total, \$3,447,480 - 58.4%.

\* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.: County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Br.  
Production & Marketing Adm., U.S.D.A.  
May 23, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

As the feed situation hits more farmers harder, the question is constantly asked, "Why isn't something done about it?"

The fact is that a good many things have been done. I don't claim that they are adequate. The continuing trouble proves that they aren't. But the situation may be a good deal better than it would have been without them, and there's quite a lot of reason for thinking that they should increase their effect gradually. In fact, that's the kind of measures they are.

Here's a brief summary of some of the things that have been done.

First, sharp limitations have been put on the use of grains.

Distillers are cut down to enough grain so that they can run at capacity only three days a month. They can use no wheat or good-quality corn and only a little rye. Brewers are limited to 70 percent of the amount of grain used in 1945.

Manufacturers who use corn for making foods and commercial products are cut to 80 to 85 percent as much as a year ago, depending on the product. Feed manufacturers are cut to 80 percent as much grain of any kind.

Feeders are limited in various ways. For instance, they are prohibited from buying grain to feed hogs to more than 225 pounds liveweight or to feed beef to better than A grade. Poultrymen are prohibited from buying grain after June 1 to feed more than 80 percent as much poultry as a year earlier.

Poultrymen, however, are given an alternative. If they have cut the number of mature birds to 70 percent as many as they had on January 1 of this year, they have a legal right to buy grain enough for their entire flocks. That doesn't promise them the grain; it just gives them the right to buy it if they can find it.

The purpose of these limitation regulations is obvious. First, to cut down on the use of grain, to try to make what we have last through, particularly in the more essential uses. The other purpose is the same as the purpose of any rationing -- the fair sharing of the burden.

Another type of action that's been taken consists of limitations on inventories. Many kinds of handlers and users of grain are prohibited from buying or receiving any more until their supplies are down to enough to last 45 days. Manufacturers, mixers and feeders are included.

Part of our grain problem has arisen from very uneven distribution. Some people gained control of very large quantities of grain, while others were unable to get any. The regulation on inventories tries to strike at that difficulty.



Radio Transcription - continued

The third type of action has come within the last two weeks. The price ceilings on most grains and ingredients of mixed feeds were raised very sharply. Corn ceilings, for instance, were lifted 25 cents a bushel, mill feeds \$10.00 a ton, many high-protein meals \$14.00 a ton, and so on.

Spokesmen for many trade and feeders' groups in the Northeast have been urging this action for months. Others have disagreed sharply, pointing out that it would raise producers' costs drastically.

When the increase in feed prices was announced, it was officially intimated that returns to milk producers might be increased to offset the higher costs. No such assurance was given in regard to any other kind of livestock. It would appear that the purpose of the increase is to discourage the feeding of so much grain to other types of livestock than dairy and to bring some of the grain that would have been fed, into the cash market.

To such extent as it works, it will mean more grain, but less meat and eggs in the market. Such effects as it will have in reducing feeding will come slowly. Pigs may be shipped to market a little lighter. The number of pigs born a year from this spring may be somewhat smaller. Even the fall pig crop may be cut a little. We may have more grass-finished and less corn-fed beef. Eggs and poultry may eventually be scarcer.

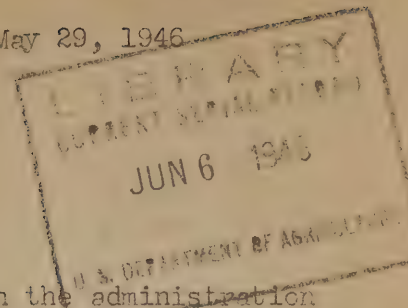
All of these things will take time, and none of them will be pleasant. But when you have more livestock than you can raise feed for, you have to cut somewhere. This is an attempt to make the cut fall where it will be less serious. That means in other places than on dairy farms.

\*\*\*

1.42  
Ad4A8r

United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.

May 29, 1946



AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration Programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

GRAHAM TO HELP SHIPPERS  
DISTRIBUTE GRAIN IN NORTHEAST

It looks now as though there would be at least a little feed available for allocation to the spots where the shortages are most critical

in the Northeast.

Here's the story. Certain farmer-owned grain marketing cooperatives in some of the principal grain producing areas are being asked by Government representatives whether they won't furnish some feed grain to be shipped to receivers that the Government designates. One of the largest cooperatives has already replied that they will do all they can.

Arrangements were made over the weekend to designate one man in the Northeast to whom shippers will look for directions as to where the grain is to go. J. Ralph Graham, State PMA Director of Durham, New Hampshire, has been chosen to do this job. Each of the Northeastern States which has critical grain shortages is listing with him the feed mixers and dealers who should receive the grain.

The choice of the receivers is made by the State Feed Advisory Committees, which include representatives of the feed trade, feeders, and technical men. These committees worked very satisfactorily during the war in allocating high-protein feeds and feed wheat.

They are already listing with Mr. Graham the points where the crisis is worst. It is impossible to tell at present how much this program will amount to, but there are reasons for hope that substantial quantities of feed will be made available in this way.

Neither is it possible to tell at present what kinds of feed will be received. The word has gone out to the cooperatives that the situation is so desperate that any feed grain will be accepted gratefully. It appears likely at the moment that receipts will be largely oats and corn, with possibly some barley. There is also a possibility that some hominy and millfeeds may be made available for allocation from other sources.

Such feeds as are received are intended, as I have stated earlier, only for the most critical situations.

In addition, the farmers of the West are making them available on the understanding that they are to be used primarily for maintaining foundation herds and flocks.

(Continued next page)



(Continued from page one)

It is hoped that enough feed will develop so that the regular poultrymen, with well bred flocks of layers and particularly breeders, will not be driven out of business. It is not believed possible to prevent substantial reduction in numbers in even the very best of flocks. As a matter of fact, substantial cuts have already been made by a big part of the producers. It is hoped to prevent a good deal of the worst of the calamity growing out of the feed shortage.

Many dairies are unquestionably going to find it necessary to feed sharply reduced quantities of grain. If this crisis had to come, of course the best time for it is when we have the best pasture of the year. The peak of the pasture season is now at hand and will allow a few weeks respite in which to make whatever adjustments are necessary.

It is the hope, and so far as possible, the national policy, to make feed enough available for dairy so that production can be maintained fairly closely to the high goal set for the year.

This present program is almost entirely a voluntary one, calling on the good will of Western grain producers to help Eastern farmers avoid some of the disaster that the feed shortage threatens. Their response is heartening. It is just another illustration of how far we have to rely on good will to solve today's problems. --- Radio Transcription, A. W. Manchester, Director, Northeast Region May 30, 1946 - 6:15 a.m. - Station WBE - Boston, Mass.

**NEW GOVERNMENT MEASURES** Recent Government actions to make more food available for export:

---Food orders amended to require effected slaughterers to make up before June 15 the differences between the amounts of meat and lard required to be set aside for Government purchase and the amounts actually delivered to the Government.

---Distillers of beverage alcohol will be permitted to operate during June and July on the same reduced basis as in May. No unused quotas of grain from previous months can be used. Use of any wheat is banned.

Measures have been announced putting into effect the wheat program for the 1946-47 marketing year outlined by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson on May 14. They are:

---An increase in the domestic distribution of flour for household and commercial use, beginning in July.

---A requirement that half of the milling wheat bought by elevator and mill operators, merchandisers, millers and other processors from farmers in 26 States be set aside for Government account.

---A commitment to pay ceiling prices for all set-aside wheat acquired by the Government.

\* \* \*

---Sir John Orr, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, has suggested a single permanent international food organization with a world-wide crop reporting system to be the "intelligence service in the war against hunger."

GRAIN EXPORTS SHOW INCREASE  
IN MID-MAY; STRIKE CAUSES  
DELAY IN LOADING SHIPS

Grain exports totaling 127,000 long tons (4,751,000 bushels) during the period May 10-20 were reported today by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Of this total, the exports of the U. S. wheat and flour equivalent totaled 119,000 tons, and of corn about 8,000 tons. Exports during the first ten days of May had totaled 105,000 tons (3,920,000 bushels) of wheat and flour equivalent. No corn was exported during that period. Shipments during the first 20 days of May brought the total of wheat and flour since January 1 to 3,493,000 tons (130,405,000 bushels). The corn reported May 28 is in addition to this total.

The increase in exports during the second ten days of May was beginning to reflect the 77,000,000 bushels of wheat and corn the Department had purchased through May 10 under the bonus programs, and a large step-up in exports during the last 11 days of the month was projected.

Sailings since May 20, ships now being loaded, and grain enroute to ports which, before the rail strike, was scheduled to be loaded on or before May 31, total 294,000 long tons of wheat and 146,000 long tons of corn. Flour which has been exported to all claimants since May 20, or before the strike was scheduled to be exported during the last 11 days of the month, totaled 162,000 long tons in terms of wheat equivalent. Pre-strike prospective exports during the last 11 days of May, plus the actual exports for the first 20 days of the month, total about 840,000 long tons for the month as a whole.

Break in the flow of wheat from inland points to ports, resulting from the strike, has delayed the loading of many ships. As a result, thousands of tons of grain which had been scheduled for export will not move out within the time limit. First estimates place this short-fall at about 150,000 tons. Total export during the last third of May will still be heavy, however, with all effort made to ship every bushel it is possible to get on boats.

DEFER DELIVERY OF BONUS WHEAT  
WHERE ELEVATORS ARE BLOCKED

In order to enable every farmer who wanted to deliver wheat on or before May 25 to collect the 30-cent-a-bushel bonus, the Department of Agriculture is permitting delayed delivery of bonus wheat in special cases. Where the local elevators were blocked, the farmers were permitted to sign contracts through May 25 for sale of wheat to the CCC and then delay delivery of the wheat until the elevator becomes open.

It was emphasized that this action does not extend the bonus offer which expired May 25, and that the offer will not be extended. The special delivery deferment is simply to take care of those farmers who were ready to deliver their wheat but could not do so because of plugged local receiving points.

The heavy flow of wheat from farms just prior to May 25 taxed shipping facilities at many points. In all cases, farmers must deliver their contracted wheat just as soon as facilities are open in order to qualify for the 30-cent bonus.

Through May 26, a total of 43,397,620 bushels of wheat had been delivered under the bonus plan. This was an increase of 20,000,000 bushels in one week. In the Northeast Region, through May 27, New York State farmers had delivered to CCC, 100,680 bushels of wheat and Pennsylvania farmers, 44,243 bushels.



EUROPE'S ACUTE FOOD NEEDS  
NOT TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY

Although need remains for special measures to ship food to Europe in abnormally large quantities, agricultural surplus producing countries including the United States -- must keep in mind the time when Europe's present acute need for imports will have subsided, according to a report on European agricultural recovery by the Department of Agriculture's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Drastic measures of international scope then will be necessary to expand greatly the purchasing power of importing countries so as to maintain international trade in agricultural products at high levels. The alternative would be for surplus producing countries to adjust their production in line with the reduction from wartime exports.

Commenting on the conclusion that five years would be required to restore agriculture, L. A. Wheeler, Director of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, emphasized that it is in no sense an indication that the United States will be called upon to continue shipping foodstuffs to European markets for the next five years in anywhere near the current level of exports.

At the moment, millions in Europe are underfed and large shipments from overseas are indispensable. Increasing imports are likely to recur, at least for some time. Specifically with reference to 1946-47, Mr. Wheeler pointed out that OFAR has just issued another report stating that "the Continent's import requirements for food in 1946-47 will be no less and may well be more than its actual imports in 1945-46." But the purchasing power of European deficit countries as a whole may not increase as rapidly as after World War I. Moreover, surpluses in exporting countries are likely to grow more rapidly now than they did at that time.

WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION EXPECTED  
TO EXCEED LAST YEAR'S

Production prospects through the world this month add up to more food than last year, but not as much as prewar, according to the Department's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This means that careful saving and distribution of food will be necessary to keep hunger at bay next spring.

Meanwhile, official rations have been cut in most famine areas of the world, says the OFAR review of May 15, and they may be slashed some more before new harvests, even if surplus areas do step up efforts to supply their neighbors.

Crop conditions in nearly all parts of the Northern Hemisphere have been more favorable than a year ago with both acreages and yields looking better than in 1945. In war-torn areas, however, acreages are much below normal, and yields will be held down by shortages of supplies and equipment.

The principal food for one-half of the world's people -- rice -- is far off this year which is a big reason for the present famine in certain areas.

Production in the Western Hemisphere reached an all-time high, but Asia fell to an unprecedented low, and European harvests were down.

Cotton production for 1945-46 is the smallest since 1923-24, mainly due to a drop in the U. S. crop. The world total is 12 percent less than a year ago, and 30 percent below the average for 1935-39. The small crop in the U. S. was due to reduction in both acreages and yields, as well as to excessive rain, labor shortage, and boll weevil damage.



TEN PERCENT PROTEIN MEAL  
SET-ASIDE FOR JUNE

Processors will be required to set aside ten percent of their June production of soybean, cottonseed, linseed, and peanut meal. This is the same amount as the May set-aside. The quantity ordered set aside beginning January 21, when the set-aside order was reinstated, was 5 percent through March 31. It was then raised to 10 percent.

Processors are instructed to ship the set-aside meal for use in designated States which are short of their fair share of meal. To date shipments have been directed to 39 States including the nine Northeast States.

The meal is being sold by the processors through regular trade channels.

HALF OF WHEAT DELIVERED  
BY FARMERS FOR COMMERCIAL  
STORAGE MUST BE SOLD

Farmers storing 1946 wheat in elevators and warehouses will be required by the Government to sell one-half of all wheat delivered for storage. And one-half of all the wheat bought by elevators and other commercial operators must be set-aside for sale to the CCC. The program will remain in effect until the Government has enough wheat from the 1946 crop to cover export requirements of 250 million bushels.

To get the wheat needed for export, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson has issued an order placing the wheat sales program in effect in all States north of the Ohio River and west of the Mississippi River, except Wisconsin and Arizona. Outside of this area the program will operate in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York.

The Government will pay ceiling prices for all wheat. This wheat will be used for export, or for other emergency needs that may develop.

HIGH VOLUME OF DAIRY  
PRODUCTS FOR CIVILIANS

Except for butter, the per capita supplies of dairy products, fluid milk and cream this year are expected to be greater than in 1945, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The consumption of fluid milk and cream will set a new all-time record this year while per capita supplies of cheese, condensed milk, ice cream, and dry milks will be greater than last year.

While milk production on farms is running 2 percent behind 1945, BAE reports that selling prices for dairy cows are higher than at any previous time. The mid-April average price was \$124 per cow, 12 percent above a year earlier.

EGG PRODUCTION LEVELS OUT

Egg production from July through December will be about 40 percent less than in January-June. But this reduction will be offset by near-record midyear cold-storage stocks and a sharp decrease in noncivilian requirements.

Of the 105 million cases of eggs estimated to be produced in the first six months of 1946, hatching will take 5 million cases; Government (for drying to meet commitments), 13 million cases; and civilians, 73 million cases.

Civilians are eating 190 to 195 eggs per person -- 10 to 15 eggs less than in the first half of 1945. Larger meat supplies tend to reduce consumer egg demand.



LUMBER OUTLOOK BRIGHTENS Lumber production is on the upswing. Actual improvement in flow won't be felt by the farmer for a while, but his prospects are definitely looking up.

March output of lumber was 2.5 billion board feet, almost 24 percent more than in February, against a normal jump during that period of only 11 percent, the Civilian Production Administration announced recently.

If the present rate of production can be maintained, the total output for 1946, should reach at least 30 billion board feet, CPA officials said. Slightly less than 28 billion board feet were produced in 1945.

The lumber distribution problem has become tougher because of the emergency housing program for veterans, but CPA and lumber industry advisory committees are trying to work out a plan to give fair shares to essential users and provide production reserves for veterans' housing.

#### 1947 GOALS AND PRICE PROGRAM ORGANIZED

N. E. Dodd, Under Secretary of Agriculture, set the stage for the 1947 production goals and price program at an organizational meeting of the chairmen (Directors of PMA commodity branches) and secretaries of the commodity committees, in Washington May 22. The group devoted itself to consideration of procedure for carrying out the responsibilities of the commodity committees in production goal and price support activities as outlined in Secretary Anderson's Memo No. 1161, just released.

Memorandum No. 1161 outlines responsibility in production goals and price support activities for the 1947 program briefly as follows: PMA has primary responsibility for leadership but full participation by other agencies, offices, and bureaus of the Department will be essential. . . The Administrator of PMA will develop procedures, (including a time schedule) and establish committees to formulate recommendations on goals and price programs. (These will include commodity committees for initiating recommendations and a coordinating committee to review them). . . The Administrator is instructed to include representation on the committees from appropriate bureaus and agencies. . . The Secretary of Agriculture will make final decisions on goals and price programs after they have been referred to the Policy and Program Committee for Department-wide review. Department proposals will then be sent to the State USDA Council for consideration in the States.

#### 1945 ACP PROGRESS REPORT FOR APRIL

The summary of State office reports of progress on the 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program and enrollments in the 1946 program are shown below for the Northeast Region.

	Report of Performance			Applic. for Payment			Farms Enrolled		
	Est. Part.	Farms Rep't'g Perf.	% Re- porting Perf.	Est. Total Appl.	Rec'd State Office	% Rec'd	1945	1946	%
Me.	11,224	11,224	100.0	3,399	2,897	85.2	12,676	11,763	92.8
N.H.	5,649	5,649	100.0	958	702	73.3	5,334	6,465	110.8
Vt.	13,117	13,117	100.0	2,527	2,355	93.2	13,254	11,379	85.8
Mass.	9,610	9,610	100.0	4,280	5,494	81.6	10,431	9,023	86.5
Conn.	5,458	4,460	81.7	2,197	672	30.6	5,631	4,783	84.9
R.I.	961	899	93.5	299	276	92.3	961	867	90.2
N.Y.	73,510	71,909	97.8	26,466	13,753	52.0	77,219	76,510	99.1
N.J.	11,719	11,495	98.1	9,333	8,811	89.6	12,996	12,501	96.2
Penn.	96,197	96,197	100.0	32,023	24,510	76.5	104,053	87,692	84.3
Total	227,445	224,560	98.7	81,982	57,470	70.1	243,055	220,983	90.9



# HATCHERY OPERATIONS DECLINE

Hatcheries are rapidly reducing their operations as the season advances, according to a special mid-May hatchery report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Many hatcheries have already closed for the season. Most of those now operating expect to be closed by the end of May. The following tabulation shows the number of chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries in thousands.

State & Div.	Chicks Hatched During April			Chicks Hatched Jan.-Apr. Incl.	
	Average 1940-44	1945 Revised	1946 Preliminary	1945 Revised	1946 Preliminary
Maine	1,208	1,563	1,594	4,212	4,105
N.H.	2,245	3,644	3,936	10,730	10,844
Vt.	247	277	332	649	839
Mass.	3,777	5,408	4,813	16,208	14,527
R.I.	371	652	535	1,800	1,358
Conn.	3,364	4,426	4,028	13,918	12,737
New Eng.	11,210	15,970	15,238	47,517	44,410
N.Y.	4,601	6,678	5,476	16,582	14,757
N.J.	6,437	7,074	6,518	16,978	15,964
Pa.	10,968	14,659	15,250	39,978	40,080
Mid.Atl.	22,006	28,411	27,244	73,538	70,801
U.S. Tot.	281,566	339,469	340,493	774,590	763,951

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators 5/1/46	Chicks Booked 5/1	Sexing
	% Change from May 1, 1945	% Change From May 1, 1945	% Change From April, 1945
New England	- 37	- 86	+ 14
Middle Atlantic	- 35	- 59	+ 12
East North Central	- 18	- 53	+ 7
West North Central	- 22	- 48	+ 20
South Atlantic	- 32	- 78	+ 14
South Central	- 41	- 52	+ 14
Mountain	- 22	- 53	+ 25
Pacific	- 37	- 61	0
United States	- 26	- 63	+ 12

# BUTTER SET-ASIDE CONTINUES AT MAY LEVEL

Creameries must set aside 20 percent of their butter production during June for sale to military and-war service agencies. This is the same percentage required to be set aside in May. No additional set-asides are expected beyond June, since the 20 percent set-asides during May and June will probably fulfill Government requirements.

Tentative estimates are for supplies of creamery butter for civilians to have about 90 million pounds of creamery butter available for consumption during June, about the same as estimated for May.

# PENNA. ADDS SEED HARVEST PRACTICE TO 1946 ACP

The 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program for Pennsylvania has been supplemented by addition of the practice, harvesting red clover, alsike, or alfalfa seed. Payment will be made for harvesting provided such seed is sold to a dealer before January 1, 1947. Payment will be made on a clean seed basis as follows: Red clover seed - nine cents per pound; alsike and alfalfa seed, seven cents per pound. This practice does not require prior approval of the county committee.



PROHIBIT USE OF FEED  
AS "BAIT" TO BUY HOGS

The soliciting of shipments of live hogs from producers by offering feeds and feed ingredients as an inducement has been prohibited by OPA. This action, effective May 28, prohibits live hog buyers from offering tankage, protein supplements, or feeds -- all of which are in short supply -- as a means of procuring shipments of hogs.

In this manner, OPA said, live hog slaughterers located near marketing centers have been able to divert supplies of live hogs from slaughterers and other buyers situated farther away. These activities have created shortages in areas some distance away from the markets and have tended to disrupt the normal distribution of hogs.

OPA also has announced two other minor changes to the live hog regulations:

1. Live hog order buyers now can charge for transportation of hogs they buy for, and in the name of, slaughterer clients. These charges cover transportation costs between the place the hogs are weighed for purchase and the slaughterer's delivery point. The rates which order buyers now may charge will be determined on the same basis as those used by live hog dealers.

2. A farm slaughterer now is explicitly defined as "a person chiefly engaged in producing agricultural products as the resident operator of a farm and who does not sell or deliver meat of a dressed weight in excess of 6,000 pounds in any twelve consecutive months."

CIVILIAN PRODUCTION  
REACHES ALL-TIME PEAK

Federal Reserve Board and Civilian Production Administration reports show that in March -- less than nine months after V-J Day -- civilian production was higher than ever before in our history. It was 10 percent above February and 69 percent higher than in our last prewar years, 1935-39.

If civilian production is high, why do we have shortages? The answer to that is clear. Today people want to buy more than they ever bought before. People are buying more than ever before. Right now retail sales are almost twice as high as in 1939. Retail sales have risen steadily and are now 24 percent higher than last September.

The simple fact is that the national expendable income is twice as big today as it was in 1939. Therefore, millions of families naturally want to buy more. In addition, some families want to spend large parts of their wartime savings. Even when production gets twice as high as it was in 1939, we will still have shortages.

\* \* \*

Correction - Last week's "Agriculture in Action" stated that "hay bale tie mills . . . having raw materials to make their own wire are not running near capacity and will continue to do so if coal is available." The word "not" should be corrected to read "now."

\* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)